

**Nigel Roberts**

15 October 2020

Dear Chair, dear Councillors, dear ccns0-Members

It has been an honour and my privilege to represent the ccnSO and the wider ccTLD constituency on the ICANN Board for almost two years.

When the process was started, some 4 - 5 months ago, for the nomination of the person who will fill Board seat 12 for a 3 year term beginning in October 2021, I found myself in some difficulty as to know whether I ought to seek that term or not, due, among other things, to particular family circumstances.

The reality is that, among other matters of concern, I have sole responsibility to ensure the care of an aging family member with a progressive and debilitating condition which I'm sorry to say is incurable and ultimately, life-limiting yet at the same time has no estimate of any timescales.

And of course, I have ongoing responsibilities as a Director of our local ccTLDs as well. In these circumstances it seemed very difficult for me to assess whether or not I would be in a position to serve on the Board in over a year's time, should I be fortunate to re-nominated by our ccNSO.

These were not my only considerations, however.

I've achieved much on the Board in a short time, including serving on the audit committee, the risk committee and in particular, ICANN's "judiciary" the accountability mechanisms committee (BAMC), of which I am especially honoured recently to have been chosen as Chair by my Board colleagues.

It would be only natural to want to continue this work. So, I allowed my name to go forward.

As we all know, the *COVID-19* pandemic, which has affected us all significantly since March, has caused many of us to review and re-evaluate priorities, and my decision has been on my mind for these last months.

Today, balancing all the factors, I have decided this morning that the right course for me and those closest to me is to withdraw my name for consideration for the Board Seat 12 term that is scheduled to start in October 2021.

Nonethelss I hope that we will get the opportunity to meet again in person sooner rather than later.

With all good wishes



Nigel Roberts

